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From: Office of the Mayor

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News Advisory

City Of Cleveland Gun Melt Hosted by ArcelorMittal Cleveland

Weapons recycled into new steel for consumer goods

CLEVELAND – On Friday, October 30, 2015, the cities of Cleveland and Cleveland Heights will partner with ArcelorMittal Cleveland to hold a gun melt. The partners will melt down and recycle nearly 200 guns that were surrendered at simultaneous Gun Buy-Back events in both cities held on Saturday, August 22.

Through the 2015 City of Cleveland Gun Buy-Back, citizens exchanged 158 firearms for gift cards for gas or groceries. The Cleveland Heights Gun Buy-Back collected an additional 42 weapons. In the past nine years, more than 2,900 weapons have been collected through the Cleveland Gun Buy-Back program.

"This gun melt will take guns surrendered by their owners, recycle them into steel, and prevent them from ever being used in an act of violence," said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. "I'd like to thank ArcelorMittal for being a good partner in the City's efforts to improve safety and reduce gun violence."

"ArcelorMittal's support of the gun buy-back program is a natural extension of our commitment to safety, both in our facility and our community. We are pleased to melt down the collected weapons and recycle them into consumer goods that improve the quality of all our lives. The guns we melt will be transformed from weapons into washing machines, car parts, refrigerators and other steel products," said Eric Hauge, Vice President & General Manager, ArcelorMittal Cleveland.

Following a media briefing, the guns will be placed into the No. 1 Basic Oxygen Furnace iron ladle and will be melted by approximately 200 tons of molten iron, at temperatures of about 2,400 degrees Fahrenheit. The molten iron, along with scrap, is then charged in the basic oxygen furnace to make steel which will eventually be used to manufacture cars, household appliances and other goods.

Media Note: To attend the gun melt, all media must pre-register with Mary Beth Holdford at (330) 659-9121 or marybeth.holdford@arcelormittal.com no later than 5 p.m. on October 29. For safety reasons, space is limited and participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

WHO: Mayor Frank G. Jackson, City of Cleveland

Michael McGrath, Director, Cleveland Department of Public Safety

Calvin Williams, Chief, Cleveland Division of Police

Charles W. Lane Jr., Executive Director, Cleveland Police Foundation Eric Hauge, Vice President & General Manager, ArcelorMittal Cleveland

Thomas Scott, Vice President, United Steelworkers Local 979

Mike Madar, Division Manager, Steel Producing, ArcelorMittal Cleveland

WHAT: 2015 Gun-melt

WHEN: Friday, October 30, 2015

1:30 p.m. media briefing immediately followed by gun melt

WHERE: ArcelorMittal Cleveland - The media briefing will take place across from Gate 1 (3175 Independence Rd.) at the outdoor area between the roadway and the Cuyahoga River. Media should arrive and park at Gate 1.

SAFETY: Members of the media must wear long pants and flat, closed-toed shoes. No tennis shoes or high heels. Additional required safety attire will be provided, including hard hats, jackets and safety glasses.

In case of inclement weather, the press briefing will be held indoors at the main office building: 3060 Eggers Rd. in Cleveland.

About the 2015 City of Cleveland Gun Buy-Back: The 9th annual City of Cleveland Gun Buy-Back was held on August 22, 2015, presented in partnership with ArcelorMittal, All Metal Sales, the Cleveland Gladiators, the Lake Erie Monsters, the City of Cleveland, the Cleveland Division of Police, the Cleveland Police Foundation, Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association, Cuyahoga County Sheriff, Dave's Markets, The Edward A. and Catherine L. Lozick Foundation, ESPNCleveland.com, First Interstate Properties, Forest City Enterprises, Ganley Auto Group, The House of LaRose, Horseshoe Casino, Milano Monuments, the Samuel H. and Maria Miller Foundation, and TruNorth Shell.